

**SAMPLE PROCESSING APPARATUS, METHODS AND SYSTEMS**

5

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

Apparatus, methods, and systems for processing sample materials that may be presented in a standard microtiter plate are disclosed. The present invention provides a bridge between the standard microtiter plate systems, methods, protocols, etc. with their stationary wells and rotating sample processing devices that allow users to obtain the rapid processing advantages of the newer sample processing devices while retaining the benefits of the standard microtiter plate formats.

10

002001 5087960

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EL542403401 US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: October 2, 2000

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER OR FEE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" SERVICE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10 ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS. ATTN: Box Patent Applications WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

PRINTED NAME Maec Ireland

SIGNATURE [Signature]